



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

# Press Release

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## Families invited to enjoy, care for parks during Day of Service Sept. 29

### *Chicago Wilderness offers outdoor volunteer opportunities*

A visit to an area park on Sept. 29 can benefit both families and nature as Chicago Wilderness Corporate Council hosts a “Day of Service.” Whether collecting seeds, clearing brush or distributing mulch, there are large amounts of open space and natural areas in the region. The day of service offers an opportunity for the public to give back to nature while helping to protect and restore these natural areas.

“These parks provide us with wonderful recreational opportunities as well as clean air and water, so it is important to spend some time lavishing care and attention in these areas,” said Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) Commissioner Debra Shore. “The day of service is a fun-filled way to give back in just a few hours.”

MWRD is a founding member of Chicago Wilderness, a regional alliance that connects people and nature. More than 260 public, private and corporate organizations work together to restore local nature and improve the quality of life for all who live here, by protecting the lands and waters on which we all depend. Organized activities take place from 9 a.m. to noon, and participants are welcome to extend the length of their visit to enjoy the surroundings.

Volunteer sites and activities in Cook County include:

#### **Bill Jarvis Migratory Bird Sanctuary**

Chicago Park District

3400 North Lake Shore, Lincoln Park, Chicago

Activity: Seed collection & invasive plants removal

#### **Dunning Read Conservation Area**

Chicago Park District

Irving Park & Oak Park Avenues, Chicago

Activity: Removing invasive plants, constructing fences with buckthorn.

Children 10 and older accompanied by parent welcome

#### **Gompers Park**

Chicago Park District

4222 West Foster, Chicago

Activity: Planting, mulching & cleanup

Children 10 and older accompanied by parent welcome

#### **Wooded Island, Jackson Park**

Chicago Park District

5800 South Science Drive, Chicago

Activity: Removing invasive plants

Children must be accompanied by adult

#### **Pioneer Woods**

Forest Preserve District of Cook County

107th Street, Palos Hills

Activity: Brush clearing

Children 13 and older are welcome

#### **Whistler Woods**

Forest Preserve District of Cook County

134th & Halsted Streets, Riverdale

Activity: Removing invasive plants & cleanup

Children eight and older accompanied by parent

#### **Wolf Road Prairie**

31st Street west of Wolf Road, Westchester

Activity: Seed collection

Children 14 and older welcome

For more information and to register, email [dayofservice@chicagowilderness.org](mailto:dayofservice@chicagowilderness.org) or visit [www.chicagowilderness.org](http://www.chicagowilderness.org).

*Our water environment, take it personally*

Established in 1889, the MWRD ([www.mwr.org](http://www.mwr.org)) is an award-winning, special purpose government agency responsible for wastewater treatment and stormwater management in Cook County, Illinois.